

3/11/67

E. L.

Pls. b1, ARGO

- This req. was rec'd - acted
upon & reply dispatched
to State/AID - COMMINT
was bracketed by on
response & ARGO advised
of req's completion.

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22 October 1969

NOTE FOR: [] NPIC

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Wally, attached are the background items on the new Chile request I spoke with you about this afternoon. We have no problem on the targeting aspect, ICRS will handle that. My query to you refers to the clipped item attached and the NPIC role in the 1968 exercise. Dr. Guthe informs me that last year [] and company did some excellent work exploiting the photography on Chile in response to the USAID request. My problem, Doctor, is simply whether you all (NPIC, that is) are in a position to do the same for this request. In our reply to [] we would like to say yea or nay on this point, so all we need from you right now is whether or not NPIC can join the act this time around.

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10/23/69

[] met on 10/23 with []

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I recommended to ahead - []

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Gene W. 10/20/69 - []

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John -

Page Denied

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

24 OCT 1969
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TOP SECRET

25X1

October 20, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR

[redacted], Chairman, COMIREX, CIA

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SUBJECT: Photographic Coverage of the Chilean Water Storage Areas

As chairman of the ARGO Steering Committee, I have received from USAID a request for satellite coverage of the Chilean water storage areas similar to that requested last year. This request stems from the continuing drought conditions in that country plus the fact that the coverage collected last year was extremely useful in analyzing the remote water storage areas in the high Andes where neither adequate stream gauges nor lake and reservoir volume data are available.

Due to the August 1969 KH-4 failure and the need for maximum SS-11 coverage by the September mission, I have delayed submitting this request to you pending the results of that mission. In view of the success of the September effort, it appears that you may possibly be able to consider this request for collection of a portion of the Chilean Andes during the November KH-4 mission. The detailed areas to be covered are identical to those USAID requested in 1968.

[redacted]
ARGO Steering Committee

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cc: [redacted] NRO

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GROUP I

Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification.

[redacted]
Copy # 1 of 5 copies.

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TOP SECRET

28 OCT 1969
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1 October 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT:

Notes on the ARGO Steering Committee
Meeting of 25 September 1968

1. In addition to the regular members, with [REDACTED] representing NASA, in attendance were [REDACTED] of BoB and [REDACTED] of NASC. [REDACTED] will apparently attend regularly representing the Marine Sciences Council. [REDACTED] brought Gordon Heath and [REDACTED] to assist him in his briefing of the Committee. [REDACTED] was not able to attend.

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2. [REDACTED] introduced the briefing on bi-spectral and color photography by stressing that efforts in the field of satellite bi-spectral photography are in an early experimental stage. [REDACTED] of NPIC, supported by vu-graphs, explained, both with respect to acquisition and reproduction, the variety of color images derivable from combining the use of different types of film with selected filters. He demonstrated that with the use of the bi-spectral approach with the two KH-4 panoramic cameras, the convergence factor between the cameras produces difficult problems of rectification and registration. Use of sophisticated optical orthophotoprinters may be expected to reduce such problems, and experiments in this direction are under way. [REDACTED] emphasized the problems faced by the photo-interpreter in analyzing

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[redacted] later mentioned that Mission 1105, due to launch late in October or early in November, will carry some color (SO 121) film footage. [redacted] pointed out that he wished the ARGO members to be aware of the existence of some bi-spectral coverage in case any member had a problem that might be helped by the bi-spectral photography already obtained.

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3. [redacted] felt that there should be much more interaction among the several known groups who are analyzing color imagery to establish PI keys for a variety of purposes. [redacted] mentioned work on spectral reflective signatures; [redacted] noted signature recognition studies carried on for the Department of Agriculture; and [redacted] mentioned the detailed work of interest to [redacted] on the development of aerial photographic keys relating to wheat and other grains in North Dakota. [redacted] then asked [redacted] to take such action as may be needed to insure that people concerned with the study of color imagery target signatures be brought together to exchange views.

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4. [redacted] then called on [redacted] to describe the problem of drought in Central Chile and the request for satellite photography of snow coverage in several watersheds in the southern Andes. [redacted] cited collateral information from the Engineering News Record of September 5, 1968, "Water and Power Running Out in Chile", and from the New York Times of September 18, 1968, "Chile's Drought Worsens". Special reference was made to the Rapel River and to the 56-foot drop in the level of Lake Laja. [redacted] showed some of the [redacted] photography received the previous day which covered parts of the four major watersheds of concern. [redacted] been programmed, in response to AID's request, to cover these

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targets. Historical information should help in the analysis of the photography, as would repetitive coverage. [] said there was no coverage for this area during the same general period last year, but he will search for coverage during previous years. The KH-4B scheduled for launch in late October or early November may cover the area. [] will request that coverage be obtained if possible.

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5. [] suggested that the Chile problem might serve as a basis for a case study of the kinds of repetitive coverage by satellite photography needed by the civilian agencies. He and [] and possibly others will look into this possibility.

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6. [] noted the need for interpreting the [] photography of Chile and suggested to [] that [] of AID work with analysts at NPIC. He later added that [] might have a hydrologist who could assist, and that some test photography in the United States by aircraft might help. [] mentioned how gratified he was with the quick response by satellite photographic resources to AID's request for assistance.

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7. [] requested [] to expand on the request of the Director of the National Resources Analysis Center, received by [] as Chairman of the Steering Committee. There are approximately 115 metropolitan areas in the United States requiring coverage, of which about 70 have already been covered by KH-4. The Director would like action taken to acquire KH stereo photography during the balance of 1968 and during 1969, on a non-competitive basis, of the remaining 40 odd metropolitan areas listed on the enclosure to his request. Harry noted that there was a two-thirds overlap with USGS requirements. [] assured [] that the request would be forwarded to you for COMIREX action.

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